

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 24 of page 13 as follows:

Referring to Fig. 1, one secondary support room 4 is arranged. A plurality of secondary support rooms can also be disposed. In this case, the structure of each secondary support room is the same as that of the secondary support room 4. The respective secondary ~~primary~~ support rooms are connected to the operating room 2 through connection lines similar to the foregoing communication line therebetween.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 18 of page 19 as follows:

In a process of step S6, in the primary support room 3, the secondary support information transmitted from the secondary support room 4 is received through the transmission/reception means 3A ~~[[3B]]~~. In a process of step S7, on the basis of the endoscopically-observed image and the secondary support information received in real time, integrated information as the optimum primary support information to be given to the operator is generated through the integration means 3B. In a process of step S8, the integrated information is transmitted to the operating room 2 by the transmission/reception means 3A via the communication line 7. The remote control system 6 executes the above processes in steps S6 to S8.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 6 of page 20 as follows:

In this case, if the secondary support rooms 4 are arranged and a plurality of secondary support information items are transmitted therefrom to the primary support room 3 ~~[[4]]~~, a supporter selects at least one secondary support information item necessary for the optimum support to generate integrated information on the basis of the selected secondary support information item through the integration means 3B.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on line 17 of page 25 as follows:

In this instance, the operating-room signal transmission device 22 converts signals, which are obtained by conversion through a control-room signal transmission device 25 in the primary support room 3 [[4]] and are supplied via the telecommunication line 7, into original video signals and instruction signals and then generates the converted signals as instruction signals to the system controller 19. The control-room signal transmission device 25, which will be described later, corresponds to the transmission/reception means 3A. The original video signals and the instruction signals will be described later. Further, the operating-room signal transmission device 22 generates the video signals to an auxiliary monitor 27, which is connected thereto, to display image information transmitted from the primary support room 3 on a monitor screen.